ramanaiya, Channapatna taluk, Gundappa, Magadi taluk, T. Ramachandra Rao, Bangalore District Board, Hutchveere Gowda, Gubbi taluk, Herur Gundappa and Channappa, Kunigal taluk, Ramachar, Kolar municipality, M. Venkatakrishnaiya, M. C. Rangaiengar, Amble Anniah Pandit and Banumaiya, Mysore city municipal council; Chandrasekharaiya, Nanjangud taluk, K. Thammiah and Kesavadasiengar, Belur taluk.

ing written for the same amount. Besides, a copy containing even two words costs as much as one of 100 words. It is therefore prayed that orders be issued allowing copies to be written on both sides of the paper or to increase the number of words to be written on a sheet by doing away with the rule "that not more than 100 English words and 125 Kannada words should be written" and by substituting, if necessary, the words, "that not less than 100 English words and 125 Kannada words." The cost of the paper may be reduced.

Some of the members observed that the parties had now to pay more but the number of words they got was less.

*Reply of Government.*—Noted for consideration. The question of increasing the number of words that might be written on each page will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 28.

Batta to witnesses.

Messrs. Lingappa, Chitaldrug municipality, and Munisamappa, Devanhalli municipality.

*Summary of discussion.*—Witnesses attending criminal courts may be given batta just as in civil courts.

*Mr. Ramachar.*—The same reasons which apply to payment in civil cases apply to criminal cases also and sometimes parties pay witness batta. He prayed that payment might be enforced.

*Mr. V. Raghavachar* observed that in summons and sessions cases it was proper to pay but not in other cases.

*Reply of Government.*—Not feasible for the present.

SUBJECT No. 29.

Acceptance of *vargarajinamas* by Sub-Registrars.

Mr. Chandrasekhariah, Nagamangala taluk.

*Summary of discussion.*—*Vargarajinamas* presented along with the instruments of conveyance are accepted by the Sub-Registrars. They may also be ordered to be accepted if presented along with the Instruments of Gift, Agreement, Release and Partition.

*Reply of Government.*—A circular has been issued to all Registering Officers to accept *vargarajinamas* in all cases of absolute transfers of lands.

SUBJECT No. 30.

Sale of general stamps by village servants.

Mr. C. Chennakesaviah, Krishi Silpabhi Vardhaka Samaj, Chitaldrug.

*Summary of discussion.*—Though the Stamp Act came into force long ago, the number of plain paper documents has not decreased especially in the Chitaldrug district and the payment of duty and penalty levied in courts is increasing. The raiyats urge in defence that they cannot get stamps whenever they want them in their villages. The sale of general stamps may be ordered to form part of the patel's duty in all villages allowing him the usual commission. Where the patel is illiterate, the shanbhog may be ordered to do that duty in those villages. The minimum value of stamp papers that he should have may be fixed at Rs. 10 or 15. By granting this facility and by instituting prosecutions in suitable cases in which plain paper is used, the number of plain paper documents will be lessened.

At present, there is no objection to these village officers being vendors if they apply to the Deputy Commissioner but it is necessary to make it obligatory on them to sell stamps so as to give facilities to the public. This will also give them some more income.

*Messrs. Raghavachar* and *Anniah Pandit* suggested that the scheme might be tried in certain places as a tentative measure. This measure might also facilitate identification of buyers and so prevent fraud by facilitating prosecutions.

*Per contra—*

*Mr. Sura Sastry* stated that there were already a number of vendors in each taluk and in some big villages, that the practice of writing documents on plain paper was due to the unwillingness of the people to purchase stamp papers and not the difficulty of purchasing them, that the use of plain paper was in evidence even in places where there are vendors, that it was objectionable to allow patels to vend stamps, as they will not be always available in the villages for this purpose, and that the proposal will create more facilities for forgery.

*Mr. Narasimhachar* of T.-Narsipur stated that fraudulent transactions were invariably on plain paper to secure secrecy, that this practice was resorted to mostly in large cities and that the increase in facilities for the sale of stamps would not remedy the defect pointed out.

*Reply of Government.*—Noted for consideration. If possible, increased facilities will be created.

SUBJECT No. 31.

Stamp duty on Powers of Attorney.

Messrs. Krishnamurthyachar, Mulbagal taluk, Amble Anniah Pandit, Mysore city municipal council, M. S. Ramachar, Kolar municipality, and G. Narasimhachar, T.-Narsipur taluk.

*Summary of discussion.*—Powers of Attorney executed in British territory in favour of persons who have to present documents for registration in Mysore have first to be produced before the Deputy Commissioner for payment of the Mysore duty thereon before they are presented for registration. This entails great hardship on parties living far away from district headquarters. The Sub-Registrar may be ordered to levy the duty on such Powers of Attorney and to send the same to the Deputy Commissioners for record of the necessary certificates.

*Reply of Government.*—There seems to be no *prima facie* objection. Noted for consideration.

SUBJECT No. 32.

Stamp duty on property sold to mortgagee.

Mr. Singri Nanjappa, Tiptur taluk.

*Summary of discussion.*—As in British territories, the Sub-Registrars may be authorized to grant permission to sell the mortgaged property to the mortgagee on the previous stamp fee paid instead of the District Registrar and the inconvenience now caused be removed.

It was stated that this practice was already in vogue in some places, such as Chikmagalur, T.-Narasipur and Koppa.